

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of calibrating a printbar in a printer comprising the operations of:

utilizing a printbar to output an image;

receiving a signal to recalibrate the printbar; and

detecting at a photodetector integrated into said printer, the output of a Light emitting diode on the printbar and adjusting a current provided to the Light emitting diode until the intensity of light detected by the photodetector matches a reference intensity determined during assembly of the printbar.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the operation of:

replacing a reference current value stored in memory with a revised reference current value, the revised reference current value indicating the new current provided to the light emitting diode that causes the intensity of light detected by the photodetector to match the reference intensity determined during assembly of the printbar.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein over 50% of the light detected by the photodetector is light from the LED after being reflected or scattered from or more surfaces of the printbar.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the photodetector is a single strip photodetector running a length of the printbar.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising the operation of:

detecting at a second photodetector integrated into said printer, the output of a second Light emitting diode on the printbar and adjusting a current provided to the second Light emitting diode until the intensity of light detected by the second photodetector matches a reference intensity determined during assembly of the printbar.

6. The method of claim 1 further comprising the operation of:

detecting at a photodetector integrated into said printer, an output of a second Light emitting diode on the printbar and adjusting a current provided to the second Light emitting diode until the intensity of light detected by the photodetector matches a second reference intensity determined during assembly of the printbar.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the operation of detecting at a photodetector the output of a light emitting diode on the printbar and comparing the output to a corresponding reference intensity is repeated for every light emitting diode on the printbar.

8. A method of calibrating a printbar in a printer comprising the operations of:

utilizing a printbar to output an image;

receiving a signal to recalibrate the printbar;

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detecting at a photodetector integrated into said printer, the output of a group of light emitting diodes on the printbar and adjusting a current provided to the group of Light emitting diodes until the intensity of light detected by the photodetector matches a reference intensity determined during assembly of the printbar.

9. The method of claim 8 further comprising the operation of:

replacing a reference current value stored in memory with a revised reference current value, the revised reference current value indicating the new current provided to the group of light emitting diodes that causes the intensity of light detected by the photodetector to match the reference intensity determined during assembly of the printbar.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein over 50% of the light detected by the photodetector is light from the group of light emitting diodes after being reflected or scattered from or more surfaces of the printbar.

11. The method of claim 8 wherein the photodetector is a single strip photodetector running a length of the printbar.

12. The method of claim 8 further comprising the operation of:

detecting at a second photodetector integrated into said printer, the output of a second group of Light emitting diode on the printbar and adjusting a current provided to the second group of Light emitting diode until the intensity of light

detected by the second photodetector matches a reference intensity determined during assembly of the printbar.

13. The method of claim 8 further comprising the operation of:

detecting at a photodetector integrated into said printer, the output of a second group of Light emitting diodes on the printbar and adjusting a current provided to the second group of Light emitting diodes until the intensity of light detected by the photodetector matches a reference intensity determined during assembly of the printbar.

14. A method of calibrating a printbar in a printer comprising the operations of:

switching on one light emitting diode and switching all other light emitting diodes off;

detecting using a detector the output of the one light emitting diode;

comparing the detected output of the detector with a stored value, the stored value corresponding to a previous output of the detector measured during assembly of the printbar; and

adjusting the power supplied to the one light emitting diode until the output of the detector matches the stored value.

15. The method of claim 14 further comprising the operation of storing the amount of power supplied to the one light emitting diode when the output of the detector matches the stored value.

16. The method of claim 14 further comprising the operation of repeating the detecting and comparing operations for a second light emitting diode on the printbar.

17. A method of calibrating a printbar in a printer comprising the operations of:

switching on a group of light emitting diodes and switching all other light emitting diodes off;

detecting using a detector the output of the group of light emitting diodes;

comparing the detected output of the detector with a stored value, the stored value corresponding to a previous output of the detector measured during assembly of the printbar; and

adjusting the power supplied to the group of light emitting diodes until the output of the detector matches the stored value.

18. The method of claim 17 further comprising the operation of storing the amount of power supplied to the group of diodes when the output of the detector matches the stored value.

19. The method of claim 17 wherein the stored value measured during assembly of the printbar was determined by using the detector to measure the output of the group of light emitting diodes during assembly of the printer.